

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O R 300046Z MAY 75
FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 7294
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 13828

EXDIS

BRUSELLS FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, OECD
SUBJECT: FRENCH REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S DIALOGUE
PROPOSALS

1. FROMENT-MEURICE, FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, FRENCH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SAW UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON TODAY TO DISCUSS REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS FOR RESUMPTION OF PRODUCER/ CONSUMER DIALOGUE. FROMENT-MEURICE SAID FRENCH HAD HAD PRELIMINARY RESPONSE FROM ALGERIANS AND FROM ANOTHER, UNSPECIFIED, OAPEC COUNTRY. IT WAS NOT CLEAR FROM CONVERSATION TO WHAT EXTENT REACTIONS AS DESCRIBED REFLECTED VIEWS OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES ALONE AND TO WHAT EXTENT THEY DESCRIBED FRENCH POLICY, ALTHOUGH CLEARLY FROMENT-MEURICE CONSIDERED REACTIONS OF TWO OAPEC CONTACTS AS IMPORTANT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF FRENCH POLICY.

2. REACTIONS AS DESCRIBED TO UNDER SECRETARY WERE GENERALLY POSITIVE TO IDEA OF US INITIATIVE TO RESUME DIALOGUE BUT CRITICAL ON THREE POINTS:

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A. FROMENT-MEURICE SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE

ACCEPTABLE FOR THREE SATELLITE COMMISSIONS TO BE LAUNCHED FROM LAUNCHING PAD CONSISTING OF TEN PREPCON PARTICIPANTS. RATHER, LAUNCHING PAD WOULD HAVE TO BE BROADENED FROM TEN TO 25 OR SO ENVISAGED FOR FULL CONFERENCE. STEPS COULD BE CONVENING OF PREPCON OF TEN AND SUBSEQUENTLY CONFERENCE OF AROUND 25 WHICH WOULD LAUNCH THE THREE COMMISSIONS.

B. SECOND CRITICISM CONCERNED OBJECTIVE CRITERIA APPROACH TO SELECTION OF MEMBERSHIP, WHICH FROMENT-MEURICE SAID WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE BECAUSE IT WOULD BE SEEN AS A MECHANISM FOR SEPARATING OUT THOSE WE DO NOT WANT TO PARTICIPATE. FROMENT-MEURICE SUGGESTED AS POSSIBILITY THAT SAME 25 OR SO MEMBERS OF LAUNCHING PAD CONFERENCE WOULD BE THE MEMBERS OF EACH COMMISSION.

C. FROMENT-MEURICE SAID THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE "CONTINUING LINKAGE" AND "PARITY" AMONG THREE COMMISSIONS. THAT IS, (1) THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A TIME ESTABLISHED FOR COMMISSIONS TO REPORT BACK TO LAUNCHING PAD GROUP, AND (2) IT WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEAR THAT THREE COMMISSIONS WERE OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE.

3. THIS TELEGRAM WAS DRAFTED FOLLOWING UNDER SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE FROM PARIS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OECDP13828
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750188-0956
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975055/aaaaaehq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S DIALOGUE PROPOSALS
TAGS: ENRG, FR, OECD, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (ROBINSON, CHARLES W), (FROMENT-MEURICE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006